(vii) Strengthening of existing Under Graduate Colleges of ISM&H;

(viii) Re-orientation Training Programme;

(ix) Scheme for upgradation of UG Department of PG Training and Research.

(c) During the last three years, an amount of Rs. 21.22 lakh has been spent by the Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy for their Clinical Research Unit (Tribal) located in Jagdalpur in Bastar District of Madhya Pradesh (now in Chhatisgarh).

(d) This Unit has been assigned clinical research in Arthritis, Rhinitis and Skin disorders which is in progress. It has registered 1,29,233 patients in its OPD during the last five years.

Spread of AIDS

4094. SHRI RUMANDLA RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka are among the six States in the country which have recorded an alarming spread of AIDS;

(b) if so, which are the other four States where the position is worse;

(c) whether Government have taken any steps to check this alarming spread of AIDS in these States;

(d) the details of the steps taken in this regard; and

(e) whether the States have been urged to take necessary steps in checking AIDS in these States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The other four states are Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Manipur and Nagaland.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. In order to prevent and control the spread HIV/AIDS in India Government of India has launched a comprehensive Programme,

currently under implementation throughout the country as a centrally sponsored scheme with the following components;

- Reducing the spread of HIV in groups at high risk by identification of target populations and providing peer counselling, condom promotion, and treatment of sexually transmitted infections.
- Preventive intervention for the general population by Information, Education and Communication (IEC) and awareness campaign, provision of voluntary testing and counselling, safe blood transfusion services and prevention of occupational exposure.
- Providing financial assistance for opportunistic infections, home and community based care.
- Strengthening effectiveness and technical, managerial, financial sustainability at National, State and Municipal levels.
- Promoting collaboration amongst public, private and Voluntary sector.

(e) States have been urged to monitor the effective implementation of the programme components in order to combat the spread of AIDS.

Shortage of qualified physicians

†4095. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a shortage of qualified physicians in the country, keeping in view the requirement of medical care;

(b) if so, the total number of physicians in the country;

(c) the required number of physicians in the country keeping in view the requirement of medical care; and

(d) Government's plan to meet the shortage of physicians?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (d) As per information available with the

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.